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# Long-Term Care Planning Committee

## June 20, 2017

### Meeting Minutes

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**Members Present:** David Guttchen, Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Erin Leavitt-Smith, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS); Margy Gerundo-Murkette, State Department on Aging (SDA); Donna Ortelle, Department of Public Health (DPH); Robert Smith, Department of Developmental Services (DDS); Kathy Bruni, Department of Social Services (DSS); Michael Santoro, Department of Housing (DOH)

**Others Present:** Melissa Morton, (OPM)

#### Review and Approval of Minutes

David Guttchen called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

D. Guttchen requested a motion to accept the minutes of the December 6, 2016 Planning Committee meeting. A motion was presented by Michael Santoro, seconded by Kathy Bruni and passed unanimously by the Committee members.

#### Updates and Announcements

**2016 Legislative Update:** D. Guttchen noted that the legislative update includes bills that were passed during the 2017 regular session and that many of the actions pertaining to long term services and supports will likely to be addressed during the 2017 special session and appear in the resulting budget implementer bill.

Melissa Morton provided a brief update highlighting legislation passed during the regular legislative session that relate to the work of the Long Term Care Planning Committee and objectives of the 2016 Long Term Services and Support Plan.

See the attached to view the complete legislative summary.



Long Term Services  
and Support Legisla

**2016 Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Plan Update:** D. Guttchen informed Committee members that the FY 2016 LTSS Plan Update is included in their handouts. He thanked members for their contributions to the update and asked everyone to review the document and contact Melissa Morton of any additions or revisions. He encouraged members to send M. Morton plan updates as appropriate once the FY 2018-2019 budget is passed.

See attached to view the FY 2016 Long-Term Services and Supports Plan Update.



### **Long-Term Care Advisory Council Comments**

Christianne Kovel, Connecticut Commission on Women, Children and Seniors (CWCS) provided an update on Commission activities: (1) The Long Term Care Advisory Council will be meeting at 11:00 A.M. on June 27<sup>th</sup> at the Legislative Office Building. The meeting will consist of a legislative wrap-up and setting the agenda for the coming year. (2) The Connecticut Elder Action Network (CEAN) will be holding a Legislative Forum on June 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00 P.M, in room 1D of the Legislative Office Building. The forum will focus on national issues and updates and will include presentations from a variety of subject matter experts.

### **Other Business**

***Office of Protection and Advocacy Transition (OPA):*** D. Guttchen noted that PA 16-66 eliminated the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (OPA) effective July 1, 2017 and required the Governor to designate a nonprofit entity to serve this function. Therefore, beginning July 1, 2017 OPA will cease operations and the Disability Rights Center of CT, Inc. will officially take over as Connecticut's designated protection and advocacy entity. D. Guttchen acknowledged the contributions of long time Planning Committee member, representing OPA, **Beth Leslie** and noted that she will be missed.

***Life Span Autism Waiver Renewal and Public Comment:*** Kathy Bruni informed members that DSS is finalizing the lifespan autism waiver renewal process and will be looking for public comment sometime around late July.

***State Plan on Aging Update:*** Margaret Gerundo-Murkette shared with the group that the Department on Aging has submitted the Department's three-year State Plan on Aging to OPM for approval. As required by the federal government, the Plan will be submitted to the Administration for Community Living by July 1, 2017.

***Preparation for Potential Nursing Home Worker Strike:*** Donna Ortelle reported that 50 nursing facilities in Connecticut have expired, or soon to be expired, worker contracts creating the possibility of a worker strike at any moment. DPH has been working on a response plan since the fall of 2016 and is prepared should a worker strike occur. DPH receives a ten day notice prior to any worker strike and can implement their action plan within that time.

***New Chore Service Option in Mental Health Waiver:*** Erin Leavitt-Smith reported that the mental health waiver has been renewed for another five years and added a new chore service to the menu of available waiver services beginning April 1, 2017.

***DDS Residential Waiting List Data:*** Robert Smith commented that DDS had begun collecting some of the DDS residential waiting list data specified in PA 17-61 *An Act Concerning A Statewide Waiting List For*

*Residential Placement For Persons With Intellectual And Developmental Disabilities*, and, therefore, will have a year's worth of data to share by the August 1, 2018 implementation date required in the bill.

**Meeting Schedule for 2017**

Tues., September 12th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Room 1A - LOB

Tues., December 5th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Room 1A – LOB

**Adjournment**

D. Guttchen requested a motion to adjourn. A motion was presented by Michael Santoro, seconded by Robert Smith and passed unanimously by the Committee members.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.